

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity on the occasion of its 60th anniversary at East Tennessee State University.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize those fraternal organizations of Greek influence and origin that enrich the collegiate experience of Tennesseans during and well beyond the years of their higher education experience; and

WHEREAS, one such fraternal organization deserving of this body's warmest regard is the Tennessee Gamma Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon, which this year is celebrating the 60th anniversary of its chartering on the campus of East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in Johnson City; and

WHEREAS, in 1954, the year of its chartering, the founding of Sigma Phi Epsilon's Gamma Chapter signified the first national fraternity to charter at ETSU, and it remains today as the premier fraternity on that campus; and

WHEREAS, those first Tennessee SigEps and all who have passed through the red doors of the chapter's affectionately named house, "The White Castle," have bonded together, believed in, and lived by their fraternal values of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love, and they have fostered strong and lasting relationships that have transcended six decades; and

WHEREAS, anniversary festivities began with a campuswide all-Greek reunion, followed by the gathering at The White Castle of seventy alumni to consider the accomplishments of the past while also planning endeavors of the future; and

WHEREAS, the signature event was a gathering of 130 alumni and 45 undergraduates and their guests at the Millennium Centre for an evening of fellowship and enjoyment. Two charter SigEps, Denny Brewer (1954) and William Sikes (1957), were present, along with five

other brothers from the chapter's first decade: Ben Earnest (1959), Joe Henley (1965), Bill Frank (1965), John Albright (1966), and Preston Wright (1964); and

WHEREAS, Sigma Phi Epsilon's Gamma Chapter is a stalwart and honorable fraternal institution of higher learning and personal growth that centers on the ideals of allowing young men to live their best lives, and to continue throughout their lives holding fast to the belief that SigEps are bound by a lifetime responsibility of brotherhood and service; and

WHEREAS, it is with pleasure that the members of this General Assembly recognize this outstanding fraternity and its chapter located on the campus of ETSU at this time; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize and congratulate Sigma Phi Epsilon's Gamma Chapter on the occasion of its 60th anniversary of chartering at East Tennessee State University. We extend our best wishes to the organization for a bright and productive future and success in all its chosen endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.